



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
ROCK ISLAND DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
CLOCK TOWER BUILDING - P.O. BOX 2004
ROCK ISLAND, ILLINOIS 61204-2004

September 18, 2003

Planning, Programs, and
Project Management Division (11.2.240a)

Ms. Anne Haaker
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
Illinois Historic Preservation Agency
1 Old State Capitol Plaza
Springfield, Illinois 62704

Dear Ms. Haaker:

The Rock Island District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) has been coordinating with the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency (IHPA) concerning the need for a new sediment trap to be dredged out of an approximate 5.1-acre area of the Illinois Waterway near Beardstown in the La Grange Pool, Cass County, Illinois. The Beardstown Sediment Trap is located at approximate River Mile 88.9 and will reduce the amount of future dredging needed at the downstream chronic dredge cuts of Grape Island and Beardstown. The Corps has identified two more wetland alternative sites and is proposing to conduct a Phase I archeological survey to search for undocumented historic properties.

The Corps notified the IHPA of the proposed sediment trap dredged material placements and wetland restoration Site 1 by letter dated June 18, 2003, and documented a finding of *No Historic Properties Affected*. No responses or comments were received from the IHPA or any consulting parties. During planning, the wetland restoration Sites 2 and 3 were included as alternatives (see enclosed map, Enclosure 1). A wetland restoration area of approximately .6 acre will be excavated in either Sites 2 or 3 and protected by a conservation easement. Any ancillary actions, such as access roads, excavation placement, or buffer zones will also be included within the Phase I archeological survey.

The Corps queried the most updated Illinois Geographic Information Systems (GIS) site file database, and no historic properties are located within the two new wetland restoration alternatives, and the lands have not been subjected to any previously archeological investigations. Historic Properties 11CS794 and 11CS795 are previously recorded in the Illinois State Site Files database adjacent to wetland restoration Site 3. Since the wetland restoration alternative Sites 2 and 3 have the potential to contain significant historic properties affected by ground surface associated with restoration methods, the Corps proposes a Phase I archeological survey. Hand methods of deep testing will occur where deemed necessary, when the final location of the .6-acre wetland restoration site is determined and the real estate rights of entry are executed.

The Corps is coordinating with the IHPA and consulting parties concerning the wetland restoration alternatives and the proposed Phase I intensive archeological survey, as promulgated under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, and its implementing regulations, 36 CFR Part 800: "Protection of Historic Properties."

If human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony are encountered or collected, the Corps will comply with all provisions outlined in the appropriate State acts, statutes, guidance, provisions, etc., and any decisions regarding the treatment of human remains will be made recognizing the rights of lineal descendants, Tribes, and other Native American Indians and under consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer/ Tribal Historic Preservation Officer and other consulting parties, designated Tribal Coordinator, and/or other appropriate legal authority for future and expedient disposition or curation. When finds of human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony are encountered or collected from Federal lands or federally recognized tribal lands, the Corps will coordinate with the appropriate federally recognized Native American Tribes, pursuant to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990 (25 U.S.C. § 3001 *et seq.*) and its implementing regulations (43 CFR Part 10).

The Corps requests comment or concurrence with our proposed Phase I intensive archeological survey for all sites proposed for wetland mitigation within 30 days, or we will assume that your agency and the consulting parties have reviewed this information on the Beardstown Sediment Trap dredge cut and dredged material placement wetland mitigation Sites 1, 2, and 3 and concur without comment.

If you have questions concerning the Beardstown Sediment Trap dredge cut, dredged material placement, or proposed survey, please call Mr. Ron Deiss of our Economic and Environmental Analysis Branch, telephone 309/794-5185, or write to our address above, ATTN: Planning, Programs, and Project Management Division (Ron Deiss).

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Kenneth A. Barr
Chief, Economic and Environmental
Analysis Branch

Enclosure

Copies Furnished:

Honorable Bob Walters
Mayor of Beardstown
101 West 3rd Street
Beardstown, Illinois 62618 (with enclosure)

Consulting Parties (see list) (with enclosure)

CONSULTING PARTIES LIST

Cass County, Illinois

Carla Savage
918 Grand Avenue
Beardstown, Illinois 62618

Ken Capps
Beardstown Sanitary District
1016 West 6th Street
Beardstown, Illinois 62618

Robert Schanzle
Illinois Department of Natural Resources
Division of Natural Resource Review
and Coordination
One Natural Resources Way
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Mr. David J. Grignon
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin
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Keshena, Wisconsin 54135-0910

Ms. Lisa A. Kraft
Cultural Resources Management Consultant
Citizen Potawatomi Nation
1601 South Gordon Cooper Drive
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President
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Mr. David M. Scholes, M.A.
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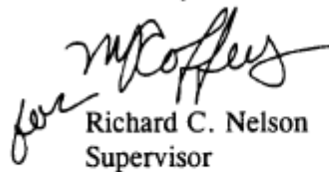
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mitigation often requires an extended period of time before it fully matures and can compare in similar habitat as that destroyed. For this reason the Service recommends that the wetland impacts be mitigated at a 2:1 ratio. We understand that 0.4 acres of wetland will actually be impacted and therefore recommend that a minimum of 0.8 acres of wetland mitigation be constructed at Site #3.

This letter provides comment under the authority of and in accordance with provisions of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended: 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.) and the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. Questions regarding this letter or our availability for review of the mitigation plan and/or the environmental assessment may be directed to Mr. Kraig McPeck at (309) 793-5800, ext. 210.

Sincerely,


for Richard C. Nelson
Supervisor

cc: IL DNR (Schanzle)
US EPA (Kowal)

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